

Message Text

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16

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 USSS-00 NSC-05 CCO-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 /032 W

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Z O 281000Z AUG 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL ALEXANDRIA

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM FLASH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0090

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 00120

JERUSALEM FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM AMBASSADOR EILTS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVIST AUG 28 - PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

REF: SECTO 10159

1. REFTTEL JUST RECEIVED. WE HAVE MADE MAJOR EFFORT OBTAIN GOE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW FOR THREE HELICOPTERS. MY AIR ATTACHE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM DISCUSSING PROBLEM WITH PRESIDENT SADAT'S SENIOR ADC GENERAL MAHI. LATTER STATES FIRMLY THAT THREE HELICOPTERS HAVE NEVER TAKEN OFF AT NIGHT FROM MAAMURA AND THAT GOE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO INITIATE SUCH AN "EXPERIMENT" NOW. SAFETY OF PRESIDENT IS INVOLVED. WHEN REMINDED THAT THREE HELICOPTERS WERE AT MAAMURA YESTERDAY, MAHI POINTEDLY NOTED ARRIVAL AND TAKEOFF OCCURRED DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. HE INSISTS ONLY 2 HELICOPTERS CAN BE PARKED AT MAAMURA AFTER SUN SETS.

2. I RECOGNIZE PROBLEM THIS POSES FOR YOU, BUT THE SECRETARY HAS BEEN INSISTENT THAT WE NOT PRESS EGYPTIAN HOSTS ON VIST
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ARRANGEMENTS BEYOND WHAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACCEDE TO.

IN CIRCUMSTANCES, BEST WE CAN DO IS AS FOLLOWS:

HELICOPTERS WOULD LAND AT MAAMURA IN FOLLOWING ORDER:
HELICOPTER 2, HELICOPTER 1 CARRYING SECRETARY, AND THEN
PRESS HELICOPTER 3. HELICOPTER 2 WOULD IMMEDIATELY TAKE
OFF TO PARK AT NUZHA. ENTIRE PRESS WOULD BE ABLE TO
COVER ANY PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT
SADAT MIGHT WISH TO HOLD ON ARRIVAL AT MAAMURA. PRESS
BUS WOULD THEN CARRY PRESS PARTY TO PALESTINE SO THAT THEY
COULD FILE. PRESS WOULD THEN RETURN BY BUS TO GATES OF
MAAMURA TO AWAIT DEPARTURE AND POSSIBLE PRESS CONFERENCE
AT THAT TIME. HELICOPTERS 1 AND 3 WOULD BE ON GROUND.
HELICOPTER 3 CARRYING PRESS WOULD DEPART FIRST TO ALLOW
MAXIMUM POSSIBLE TIME FOR EOD CHECK AT PLANESIDE. AFTER
HELICOPTER 3 DEPARTURE FROM MAAMURA, HELICOPTER 2 WOULD
LAND THERE, COMING FROM NUZHA. TO BRING HELICOPTER 2 FROM
NUZHA TO MAAMURA WILL REQUIRE ABOUT 15 MINUTES. SECRETARY
COULD SPEND THIS 15 MINUTE LAG TIME AT MAAMURA OR, IF HE
PREFERS, COULD EMBARK FOR JIANIKLIS AND WAIT THERE FOR HELICOPTER
2 TO ARRIVE. IN OTHER WORDS, IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE FULL
PRESS PARTY, SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT 15 OR 20 MINUTES EITHER
AT MAAMURA OR JIANIKLIS. IF THIS WAITING PERIOD IS NOT
ACCEPTABLE TO THE SECRETARY, THEN THE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO KEEP
PRESS EITHER AT JIANIKLIS TO COVER CONTINGENCY OF OVERNIGHT
IN ALEXANDRIA OR TO LEAVE THEM IN ISRAEL. IN THAT CASE
PRESS POOL ON HELICOPTER 2 COULD PROVIDE PRESS COVERAGE.

3. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS ASAP SO WE CAN PROVIDE
REVISED SCENARIO.
EILTS

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